Resolution authorizing a settlement to Jessica Gutknecht for a disputed vehicle damage claim due to an auto accident involving Franklin County Utility Maintenance Specialist (Sanitary Engineering) (\$4,386.65)

WHEREAS, on July 25, 2011 Franklin County Sanitary Engineer Utility Maintenance Specialist, Stephen Thomas, was involved in an auto accident; and

WHEREAS, at approximately 4:10 pm on July 25, 2011, Stephen Thomas failed to yield for a red light while driving south on US Route 42 and struck the vehicle operated by Jessica Gutknecht which was driving north on State Route 745; and

WHEREAS, the vehicle operated by Jessica Gutknecht, as struck by Stephen Thomas, was then pushed into another vehicle which was stopped at the intersection light facing southbound situated at US Route 42; and

WHEREAS, Franklin County will pay the negotiated property damage settlement in the amount of four thousand three hundred eighty six and 65/100 dollars (\$4,386.65) as allowed by Ohio Revised Code to Jessica Gutknecht for damages to her vehicle in the accident that occurred on July 25, 2011; and Jessica Gutknecht has accepted contingent on approval by the Commissioners; and

WHEREAS, the above described settlement fairly compensates Jessica Gutknecht for the damages to her vehicle; and

WHEREAS, there are bodily injury claims arising out of this accident for which settlement has not been reached and which are separate from the property damage settlement involved herein; and

WHEREAS, by agreeing to this settlement, neither Stephen Thomas, the Franklin County Commissioners, nor the Franklin County Department of Sanitary Engineering admits to any negligence or liability arising out of the auto accident; and

WHEREAS, the above described settlement, recommended by George Rittel of Rittel, Hill and Zimmerman Adjuster Service, and Franklin County Fleet Management, deems it to be in the best interest of the Franklin County Board of Commissioners and the Franklin County

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Department of Sanitary Engineering to settle the vehicle claim for four thousand three hundred eighty six and 65/100 dollars (\$4,386.65); and

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS, FRANKLIN COUNTY, OHIO;

- 1. That the above-referenced settlement in the amount of four thousand three hundred eighty six and 65/100 dollars (\$4,386.65) is in the best interest of the Franklin County Commissioners, Franklin County Department of Sanitary Engineering and the Department of Fleet Management and the same is hereby approved.
- 2. That upon execution of a full release in favor of the Franklin County Commissioners, Department of Fleet Management and the Franklin County Department of Sanitary Engineering that is satisfactory to the Prosecutor's Office; a warrant be issued to the Jessica Gutknecht's attorney payable to Kevin F. Kurgis Co., LPA, at 300 South Fourth Street, Suite 300, Columbus, Ohio 43215 as full and final settlement of this matter.
- 3. The attached Purchase Order in the amount four thousand three hundred eighty six and 65/100 dollars (\$4,386.65) is hereby approved.

Prepared by: Justin Nahvi, Sanitary Engineering

cc: Bill Stehle, Assistant Prosecuting Attorney Fleet Management Sanitary Engineering